GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1642
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2003
MAINTENANCE OF GRID DISCIPLINE
V. VETRISELVAN

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether grid indiscipline of Electricity Boards is the main reason for collapse of regional grids;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have asked the State Governments to ensurethat State Electricity Boards in their respective States maintain grid discipline;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to keep check on SEBs so that they may not violate the grid discipline?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) : The enquiry committees constituted in the past to enquire into the causes of various grid disturbances/collapse, had identified various reasons for the grid disturbances. Violation of grid discipline by one or more constituents in a region is one of the main reasons of grid disturbance. Besides, there are other reasons like break- down/outages of major transmission system/major generating units, power swing, malfunctioning of protection system etc. in some cases.

(b) & (c) : Recommendations of the enquiry committees constituted from time to time to enquire into the causes of various major grid disturbances have been communicated to State Power Utilities/State Governments for implementation.One of the common recommendation of enquiry committees has been maintenance of grid discipline by the State Power Utilities.Central Electricity Authority and Ministry of Power through various communications to the State Power Utilities/State Governmentshave also been emphasizing the need for maintenance of grid discipline by them.

(d) : In order to maintain the grid discipline, the Indian Electricity Grid Code (IEGC) circulated by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC)is in force. The IEGC lays down the rules, guidelines and standards to be followed by the variousagencies. Further, with the implementation of Availability Based Tariff which provides frequency linked commercial deterrents/incentives for overdrawal/underdrawal by State Power Utilities from the grids, the incidences of violation of grid discipline have reduced to great extent. Frequency profiles in all the regions have improved. The frequency now remains for most of the time between 49.0 to 50.5 Hz as specified in IEGC.These steps, along with Operationalisation of under frequency relays and more inter-regional exchanges of power have improved the grid performance in all the regions.